

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compensation system for a firearm, said compensation system comprising:
 - a barrel having a longitudinal bore and defining thereby a firing axis;
 - a compensator assembly including an attaching means for releasably attaching said compensator assembly adjacent a muzzle end of said barrel; and
 - a gas discharge port formed only in an upper three quarters of said compensator assembly, said gas discharge port not being aligned with said longitudinal bore and communicating with an inner bore of said compensator assembly.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Original) The compensation system for a firearm according to claim 1, wherein:
 - said barrel includes a recess formed therein; and
 - said attachment means is configured to be releasably accepted within said recess.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The compensation system for a firearm according to claim 1, wherein:~~ A compensation system for a firearm, said compensation system comprising:

a barrel having a longitudinal bore and defining thereby a firing axis;

a compensator assembly including an attaching means for releasably attaching said compensator assembly adjacent a muzzle end of said barrel;

a gas discharge port formed in said compensator assembly, said gas discharge port not being aligned with said longitudinal bore and communicating with an inner bore of said compensator assembly;

said barrel includes a gas aperture which is aligned with said gas discharge port when said compensator assembly is attached adjacent said muzzle end of said barrel;
and

said gas aperture not being aligned with said longitudinal bore.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A compensation system for a firearm, said compensation system comprising:

a shroud having a longitudinal bore;

a barrel releasably housed within said shroud and defining thereby a firing axis, said barrel including [[a]] an annular flange disposed on a distal end of said barrel for arresting a longitudinal translation of said barrel within said longitudinal bore, said annular flange having a flange diameter which is greater than an outer diameter of said barrel;

a compensator assembly including an attaching means for releasably attaching said compensator assembly adjacent a muzzle end of said barrel; and

a gas discharge port formed in said compensator assembly, said gas discharge port not being aligned with said longitudinal bore and communicating with an inner bore of said compensator assembly.

22. (Original) The compensation system for a firearm according to claim 21, wherein:

said shroud includes a recess formed therein; and

said attachment means is configured to be releasably accepted within said recess.

23. (Original) The compensation system for a firearm according to claim 22, further comprising:

a tensioning means for selectively preloading said attachment means within said recess in a direction substantially parallel to said firing axis.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The compensation system for a firearm according to claim 21, wherein:~~ A compensation system for a firearm, said compensation system comprising:

a shroud having a longitudinal bore;

a barrel releasably housed within said shroud and defining thereby a firing axis, said barrel including a flange disposed on a distal end of said barrel for arresting a longitudinal translation of said barrel within said longitudinal bore;

a compensator assembly including an attaching means for releasably attaching said compensator assembly adjacent a muzzle end of said barrel;

a gas discharge port formed in said compensator assembly, said gas discharge port not being aligned with said longitudinal bore and communicating with an inner bore of said compensator assembly;

a tensioning means for selectively preloading said attachment means within said recess in a direction substantially parallel to said firing axis;

said shroud includes a threaded bore formed beneath said longitudinal bore; and
said tensioning means is a bolt that threadedly engages with said threaded bore.

26. (Original) The compensation system for a firearm according to claim 25, wherein:

said bolt includes a raised flange that selectively tensions said attachment means against said recess.

27. (Currently Amended) The compensation system for a firearm according to claim [[28]] 26, wherein:

said shroud includes a gas aperture which is aligned with said gas discharge port when said compensator assembly is attached adjacent said muzzle end of said barrel.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) The compensation system for a firearm according to claim 21, wherein:

said shroud includes a gas aperture which is aligned with said gas discharge port when said compensator assembly is attached adjacent said muzzle end of said barrel.